

Remarks

Claims 1, 5, 6 and 14 are pending. Claims 1, 5 and 6 have been amended to further define the bisphosphonate. Claims 7-13 and 15-16 have been cancelled. New claims 17 and 18 have been added and further define the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification. More specifically, support for the new claims can be found in the Examples.

Election/Restriction

Applicants wish to provisionally elect Group I, which are claims 1, 6 and 9, drawn to a pharmaceutical composition which comprises a bisphosphonate and a HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor.

As for an election of species, Applicants elect 2-(imidazol-1yl)-1-hydroxyethane-1,1-diphosphonic acid (zoledronic acid) or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof. This election of species is also reflected in the newly amended independent claims. Furthermore, zoledronic acid is a species of the general formula I in original claims 8 and 16.

Entry of this Response is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp.
Patents Pharma
One Health Plaza, Building 104
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080
(862) 778-7852


Oona A. Manzari
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 48,152

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